

Brown, Katherine

From: McTigue, Erin
Sent: Tuesday, July 01, 2014 12:35 PM
To: Thomas, Sally; Bender, Todd; Brown, Katherine; Davis, Michelle V.; Fleek, Adrienne; Fordham, Tami; Foster, Westley; Fry, Kristy; Gay, Santina; Herbst, John; Kimmons, Sherry; Lowinger, Mahri; Villa, Catherine
Cc: Zhen, Davis; Wilson, Wenona
Subject: FW: Alaska Fish Testing and Fukushima Radiation Press Release

Hi everyone,

Apologies for multiple postings, but I wanted to make sure all of you received the following information from Davis. I also sent this to the Alaska Tribal Air Workgroup list, and understand that the R10AKInfoBox is out of commission for a little while.

Below, you will find results of fish testing related to Fukushima radiation, and plans for future testing. Please contact Davis Zhen with questions – zhen.davis@epa.gov.

Thanks,
Erin

From: Zhen, Davis

Hi everyone,

FDA and Alaska DEC have just released the results for the first round of fish sampling in Alaska. The results show no levels of radiation that could be traced back to the Fukushima incident. Attached please find the news release from ADEC on the results.

The results posted represent just the initial sampling efforts. Additional samples still to be collected this summer including Chinook, Sockeye, Chum and Pink salmon. Please stay tuned for more data to come.

Below are some useful links for the FDA sampling program and ADEC's results.

[Article on FDA's sampling plan:](#)

<http://www.alaskapublic.org/2014/04/01/fda-adds-alaska-salmon-testing-to-radiation-monitoring-program/>

[ADEC Fukushima webpage:](#)

<http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/Radiation/index.html>

[FDA results:](#)

<http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/Radiation/Docs/Radiation%20Not%20Detected%20in%20Fish%20Charts%2006-27-2014v2.pdf>

How to interpret the data:

- Minimum detection concentration (MDC) – the lowest level of radionuclide concentration that can be detected by the instruments

- Derived Intervention Level (DIL) – Levels set by the FDA at which government intervention is warranted to protect public health (levels are different for individual radionuclides)
- Bq/kg (Becquerel/kilogram) – one disintegration (atom decay) per second per kilogram of sample

Please let me know if you have any questions. Have a nice weekend.

Thanks,

Davis Zhen
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From: Frost, Cathy J (DEC) [<mailto:cathy.frost@alaska.gov>]

Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 2:01 PM

Subject: Alaska Fish Testing and Fukushima Radiation Press Release

Greetings,

Please see the attached joint press release and visit the “Radiation Concerns in Alaska” webpage to see the results of recent fish testing.

<http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/Radiation/index.html>

Thank you!

Cathy J. Frost | Program Coordinator
Director's Office | Division of Environmental Health
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 27, 2014

Contact: Dr. Bob Gerlach, Department of Environmental Conservation, 907-375-8214, bob.gerlach@alaska.gov
Dr. Michael Cooper, Department of Health and Social Services, 907-269-8004,
michael.cooper@alaska.gov

Analyses Confirms that Alaska’s Seafood is Safe from Fukushima Radiation

JUNEAU — The Alaska departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Health and Social Services (DHSS) have received results from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on radiation testing of Alaska seafood. The results confirm information from federal, State and international agencies that seafood in the North Pacific and Alaska waters poses no radiation related health concerns to those who consume it.

The FDA is the lead U.S. agency in food safety. The agency has been monitoring radiation in both domestic and imported foods and determined that there have been no levels of Fukushima radiation in those foods that would pose a public health concern. However, Alaskans have insisted on Alaska-specific sampling and data. DEC and DHSS developed a sampling plan and coordinated with the FDA for them to analyze several Alaska fish species that are known to migrate from the western Pacific Ocean and that are harvested by commercial, recreational and subsistence fishers.

“We heard concerns from our neighbors, friends and other citizens throughout Alaska about the possible contamination of Alaska fish with the radiation releases from the Fukushima disaster,” DEC Environmental Health director Elaine Busse Floyd said. “We did not expect to find any problems with Alaska seafood based on federal monitoring of domestic and imported foods. However, we felt that it was important to assist the FDA by developing a sampling plan and obtaining Alaska fish to be tested. The data reassures us and other Alaskans for whom seafood is such a critical part of life in Alaska.”

The testing found no detections of the Fukushima-related radioisotopes Iodine-131, Cesium-134, or Cesium-137. There was some detection of background or naturally-occurring radiation. The results indicate no appreciable risk from any tested radionuclide in these fish. DEC and DHSS have posted the findings on their websites.

All samples were analyzed by standard techniques routinely used by the FDA to evaluate food safety. The fish samples were composites, containing tissue from several fish, and were collected using a statistical protocol. Samples were collected across the state from the Aleutian Islands/Bering Sea to Southeast Alaska.

DEC continues to collaborate with its partners, including DHSS, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Cook Inlet Keeper, North Slope Borough, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, FDA, and others to continue to compile and evaluate additional environmental sample data.

For more detailed information on the analyses, visit DEC’s website:
<http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/Radiation/index.html>.

For more information on Alaska-specific information about Fukushima-related radiation exposure, visit DHSS’s website:
<http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/eh/radiation/default.htm>.

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